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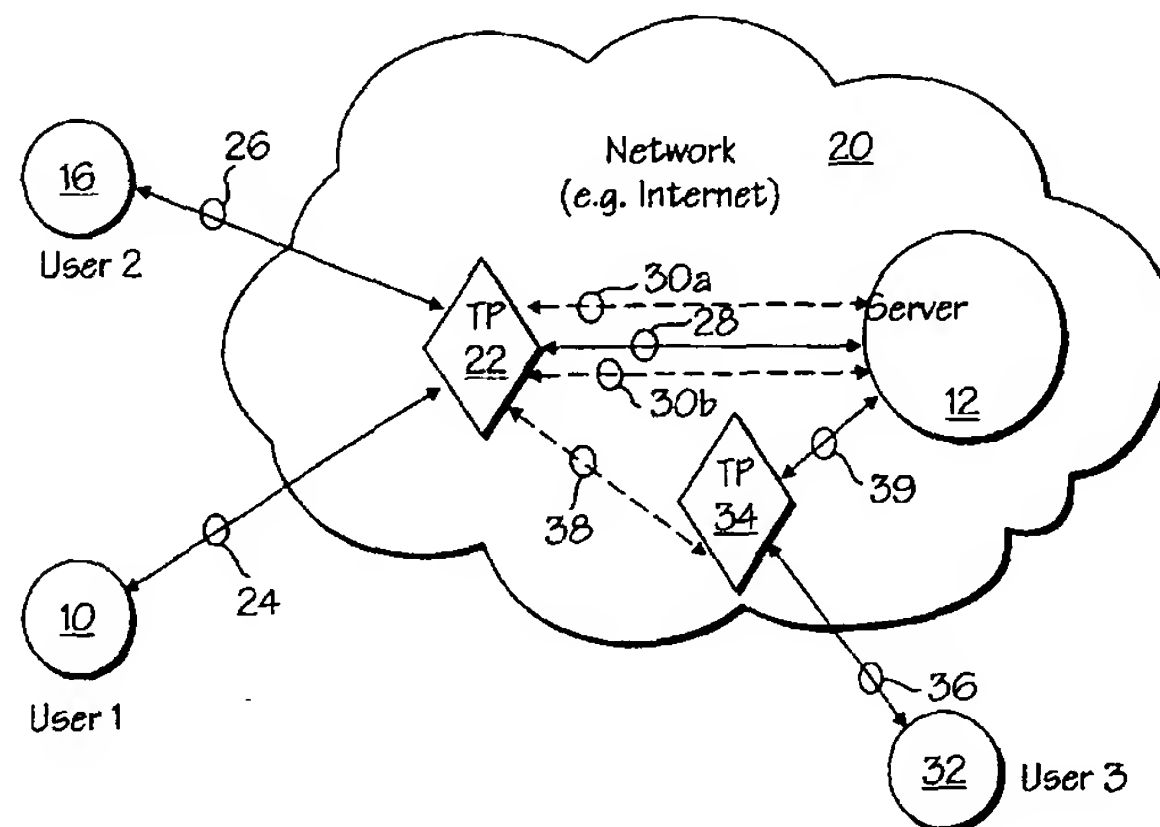
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DYNAMIC PROXY REFLECTING OF STREAMING CONTENT



(57) Abstract: Multiple content consumers are serviced from a single content source on the basis of an examination of a description of the content requested by the content consumers. That is, a proxy communicatively coupled to the content consumers is configured to examine the requests for content made by the consumers and to determine (e.g., on the basis of meta information associated with the content and/or the content requests, whether live or prerecorded streaming content has been requested. If live content has been requested, the proxy is further configured to dynamically reflect (in a protocol independent fashion) any existing streams that include such content to those of the content consumers that are requesting such content. If prerecorded content is being requested, the proxy is configured to play back a stored version thereof, if available, or to open a connection to the content source for such playback if no stored version of the content is available. In some cases, playbacks of live or stored content from the content source may involve data seaming of multiple connections between the proxy and the content source.



WO 00/77999 A3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 H04L29/06

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G06F H04L H04N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC, COMPENDEX, IBM-TDB

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 893 920 A (IBM) 27 January 1999 (1999-01-27)	1-4
Y	abstract	5-7
A	page 3, line 31 - line 34 claim 20; figure 1	8-15
X	CHINEN K & YAMAGUCHI S: "An Interactive Prefetching Proxy Server for Improvement of WWW Latency" PROCEEDINGS OF INET: THE INTERNET: THE GLOBAL FRONTIERS, XX, XX, vol. 1/3, 8 June 1997 (1997-06-08), XP002086569	1-4, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14
A	page 1, line 1 - page 2, line 51 page 4, line 14 - line 30 -/--	5-7, 10, 12, 15

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

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Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 99 22316 A (CACHEFLOW INC) 6 May 1999 (1999-05-06) page 1, line 19 -page 3, line 19	1-4, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14
A	page 4, line 23 -page 7, line 4 claim 1 ---	5-7, 10, 12, 15
Y	US 5 539 749 A (EUL HERMANN-JOSEF) 23 July 1996 (1996-07-23)	5-7
A	column 2, line 23 - line 60 ---	10
A	WO 98 40826 A (IBM UK ;IBM (US)) 17 September 1998 (1998-09-17) page 12, line 8 - line 28 page 29, line 19 - line 32 -----	3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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